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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1972

P. F. A. PEREIRA, M.B.B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

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STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer for
Consett and Stanley Urban and Lanchester Rural Districts:*

P. F. A. PEREIRA, M.B.B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector:

H. WALTON, Registered Architect, M.A.P.H.I., and R.S.H. Diploma
for Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

T. E. HODGSON, M.A.P.H.I., and R.S.H. Diploma for Inspection of
Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R. CALLAND, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H. Diploma for Inspection of Meat and
Other Foods, R.S.H. Diploma for Smoke Inspectors and H.N.C.
(Building).

A. J. EVANS, M.A.P.H.I., Diploma P.H.I.E.B., and R.S.H. Diploma in
Air Pollution Control. (Commenced 12th January, 1972).

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

K. ERRINGTON

Authorised Meat Officer:

A. DUNN, R.S.H. Certificate in Meat Inspection

Rodent Officer and Market Inspector:

A. EMBERSON

Clerical Staff:

MR. G. GREEN, MRS. E. WINTER, MISS A. LAIDLAW

Health Department,
Council Offices,
Medomsley Road,
Consett, Co. Durham.
DH8 5JA.

July, 1973

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CONSETT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year, 1972.

On the whole it has been a satisfactory year; the health record for the district was good with no serious incidence of infectious disease, apart from an outbreak of measles.

The vital statistics show no change in the birthrate but a marked decrease in the rate for stillbirths. Whilst there was a slight increase in the deathrate the rates for infant and perinatal deaths were down.

Although there was a slight fall in the coronary deaths, diseases of the heart continue to be the main cause of death. It is pleasing to note a considerable fall in the number of deaths due to lung cancer but this is balanced by the deaths from bronchitis, which are almost double last year's total. Accidental deaths too show an increase from the previous year.

As in previous years I have received the utmost co-operation from my colleagues in general practice, the hospital service and the Public Health Laboratory Service.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their continued support, the Clerk, the Chief Officers and their staff, and the Staff of my own Department, for their co-operation and goodwill.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,

P. F. A. PEREIRA,
Medical Officer of Health.

I. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT

Area (acres)	10,042
Population (estimated)	35,090
(i) Estimated number of children:	
Under 5 years	3,241
5-15 years	6,215
Marriages in the Area during 1972 (estimated)	242
Number of Inhabited Houses	12,504
(i) Number of Aged Miners' Homes	56
(ii) Number of Council Aged Persons' Homes	334
(iii) Number of Council Houses (including Aged Persons)	4,512
(iv) Number of Houses and Shops combined	113
(v) Number of Lock-up Shops	314
(vi) Number of Occupied Houses under Clearance Areas, Closing or Demolition Orders	19
Rateable Value 1st April, 1972	£1,834,849
Net Product of a Penny Rate, 1st April, 1972	£17,700

UNEMPLOYED AND DISABLED

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
(i) Employable persons out of work at the end of 1972	651	134	785
(ii) Persons registered as Disabled	625	40	665
(iii) Percentage of Registered Disabled who were on the Tuberculosis Register	2.5	5.0	7.5
(iv) Disabled persons trained	4	—	4
(v) Number of persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1972	16	—	16
(vi) Number of T.B. persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1972	—	—	—
(vii) Tuberculosis persons trained during 1972	—	—	—
(viii) Number of Registered Blind Persons	6	1	7
(ix) Number of Partially Sighted Persons	38	2	40
(x) Number of Registered Physically Handicapped Persons	—	—	—
(xi) Number of Registered Deaf and Dumb Persons	6	—	6
(xii) Number of Registered Hard of Hearing Persons	10	—	10

DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS

(See Appendix A)

	Consett	England and Wales	Durham County
LIVE BIRTHS			
Number	516		
Rate per 1,000 population	14.7	14.8†	14.8
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	5.0	9.0†	—
STILLBIRTHS			
Number	6	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.. .. .	11.0	12.0†	12.0
Total live and stillbirths	522	—	—
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	11	—	—
INFANT MORTALITY RATES			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	21.3	17.0†	19.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.4	17.0†	—
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	21.0†	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.6	12.0†	14.0
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	8.0	10.0†	—
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	19.0	22.0†	23.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	Nil	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.. .. .	—	0.15†	0.25
DEATHS			
Number	466	—	—
Rate per 1,000 population	13.3	12.1†	12.3
TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS			
Number	Nil	—	—
Rate per 1,000 population	—	0.02†	—

†Provisional figures

The standardised birth and death rates for the area, i.e. rates calculated in such a way that allowances are made for the age and sex composition of the population, were 16.0 and 13.7 respectively.

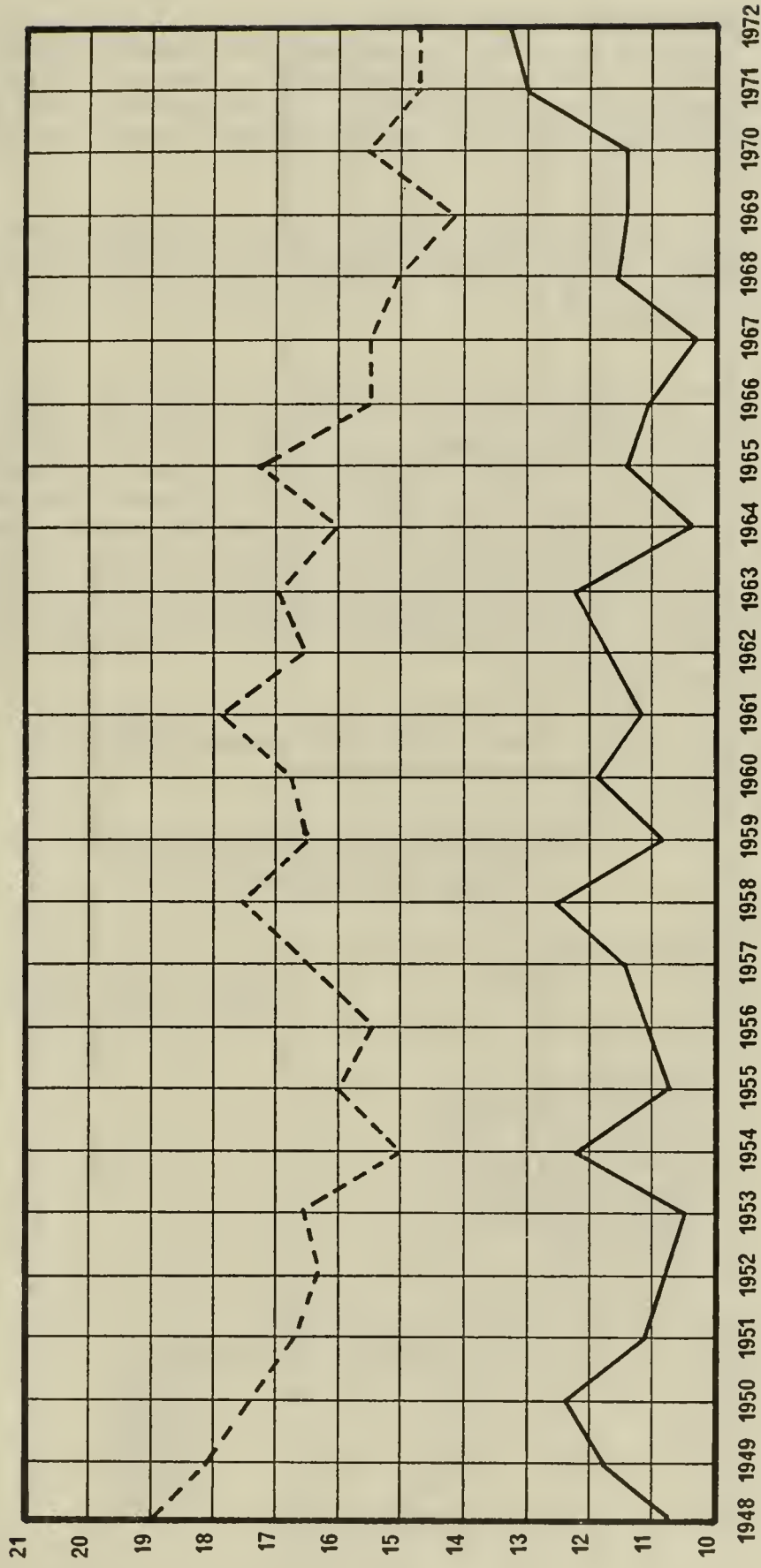
BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
(a) Live Births			
Legitimate	250	241	491
Illegitimate	15	10	25
	<hr/> 265	<hr/> 251	<hr/> 516
(b) Stillbirths			
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Totals
Deaths during the year	239	227	466
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	—	—	—

Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 Population 1948 - 1972



(a) **Infant Deaths**

During the year there was a decrease in the number of infant deaths there being 11 (21.3 per 1,000 live births) as compared with 12 in the previous year (23.0 per 1,000 live births). Four of the eleven deaths occurred in the first week of life. The rate for Durham County was 19.0 and England and Wales 17.0.

There was also a decrease in the number of stillbirths, there being 6 as compared with 9 in the previous year. This gives a stillbirth rate of 11.0 and compares with the rate of 12.0 for Durham County and 12.0 for England and Wales.

The investigation of all perinatal deaths in Stanley and Consett Urban Districts was continued for the fifteenth successive year. Each case is investigated in detail and as far as possible a post mortem is carried out in every case. The scope of the survey has widened considerably and consideration is given to the presence of an avoidable factor associated with the cause of death. Quarterly meetings are held with the Consultants at the Maternity Department of Shotley Bridge General Hospital, and each year a report is presented to a meeting of the hospital medical staff, general practitioners, and local health authority medical staff. Co-operation from the hospital medical and nursing staff, midwives and general practitioners is excellent.

The perinatal mortality rate is 19.0 as compared with 23.0 for Durham County and 22.0 for England and Wales.

**ANALYSIS OF INFANT DEATHS DURING
FIRST YEAR OF LIFE 1972**

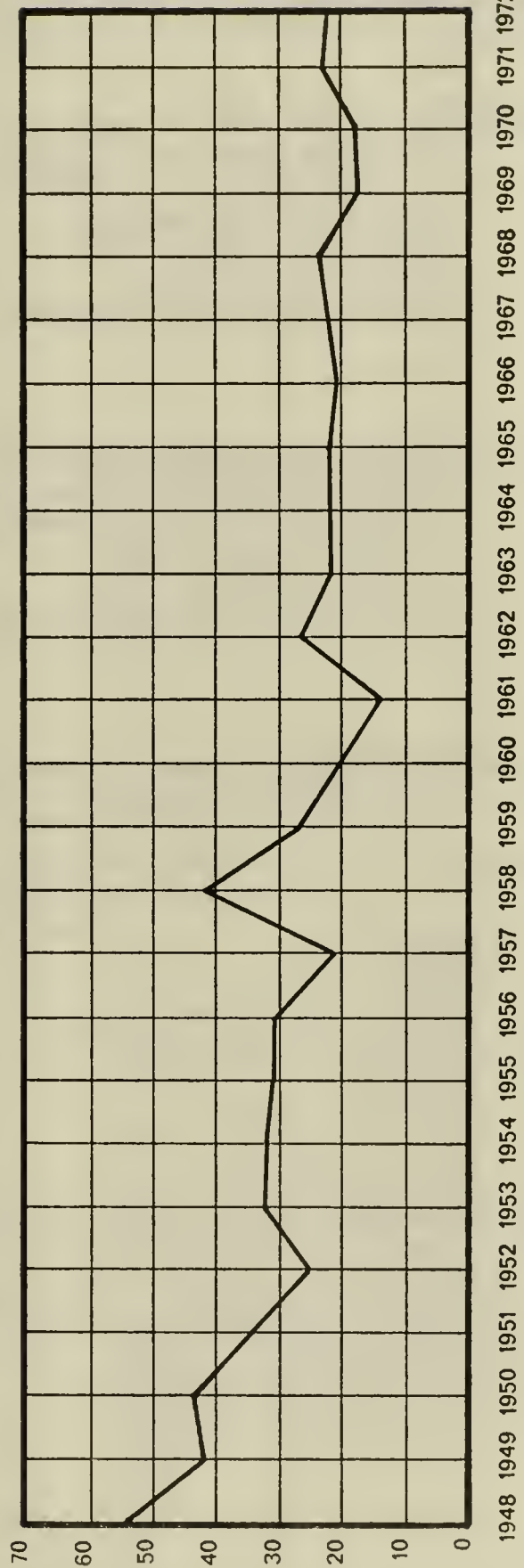
†Cause	Under 1 week	1 to 4 weeks	1 to 12 months
Prematurity	2	—	—
Congenital Heart Disease	—	1	2
Congestive Heart failure	—	—	1
Uraemia	—	—	1
Staphylococcal Infection	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	1	—	—
Broncho-Pneumonia.. .. .	1	—	—
Hydrocephalus	—	1	—
	4	2	5

† *As Classified by the Registrar General*

INFANT DEATHS per 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS SINCE 1948

During the year there were the following deaths under one year

	Males	Females	Totals	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
LEGITIMATE	4	7	11	21.3
ILLEGITIMATE	-	-	-	-



(b) Deaths (General)

	Male	Female	Total
ALL CAUSES	239	227	466
1. Cardio vascular:			
(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	24	26	50
(b) Coronary Disease	67	49	116
(c) Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	1	3
(d) Chronic rheumatic heart disease ..	2	2	4
(e) Other heart diseases	16	19	35
(f) Other circulatory diseases	7	13	20
(g) Other diseases of nervous system etc...	—	1	1
	<u>118</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>229</u>
2. Cancer:			
(a) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ..	—	2	2
(b) Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ..	9	10	19
(c) Malignant Neoplasm, intestine ..	6	11	17
(d) Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	5	17
(e) Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	7	7
(f) Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	5	5
(g) Malignant Neoplasm, prostate ..	1	—	1
(h) Malignant Neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	2	2	4
(i) Other Malignant Neoplasms	12	14	26
	<u>42</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>98</u>
3. Chest diseases:			
(a) Pneumonia	16	10	26
(b) Bronchitis and Emphysema	28	7	35
(c) Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	1	1
	<u>44</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>62</u>
4. Influenza	2	—	2
5. Diabetes Mellitus	3	3	6
6. Leukaemia	1	1	2
7. Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	1	2
8. Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases ..	1	—	1
9. Other diseases of digestive system ..	4	3	7
10. Peptic ulcer	5	1	6
11. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
12. Other diseases, genito urinary system ..	1	3	3
13. Congenital anomalies	1	5	6
14. Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	—	1
15. Symptoms and ill defined conditions ..	1	4	5
16. Motor vehicle accidents	4	3	7
17. All other accidents	4	8	12
18. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	1	1	2
19. Other endocrine, etc. diseases	—	2	2
20. Anaemias	1	—	1
21. Intestinal obstruction and hernia ..	2	2	4
22. Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	2
23. Diseases of musculo-skeletal system ..	1	—	1
24. Other causes of perinatal mortality ..	—	1	1
25. Suicide and self inflicted injuries ..	1	2	3

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the heart and circulatory system, cancer, bronchitis and pneumonia, in that order of prevalence.

Coronary Disease

There was a decrease in the number of deaths from coronary disease there being 116 as compared with 120 in the previous year. Deaths in age groups are as follows:

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
35-44 years	1	1	2
45-54 „	9	—	9
55-64 „	23	5	28
65-74 „	21	19	40
75 years and over ..	13	24	37
	<hr/> 67	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 116

Lung Cancer

There was a marked decrease in the number of deaths from lung cancer, there being 17 as compared with 27 in the previous year.

Deaths in age groups are as follows:

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
35-44 years	—	—	—
45-54 „	1	2	3
55-64 „	4	2	6
65-74 „	6	—	6
75 years and over ..	1	1	2
	<hr/> 12	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 17

The death rate for lung cancer for this area was 0.48 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.64 for England and Wales.

Bronchitis

There was a marked increase in the number of deaths from bronchitis, there being 35 as compared with 18 in the previous year.

Deaths in age groups are as follows:

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
35-44 years	1	—	1
45-54 „	—	1	1
55-64 „	10	1	11
65-74 „	12	—	12
75 years and over ..	5	5	10
	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 35

Accidents

There was an increase in the number of accidental deaths, there being 19 as compared with 14 in the previous year.

Cases of home accidents treated at the Casualty Department of Shotley Bridge General Hospital in 1972 were as follows:

	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Admitted</i>
Burns and Scalds	53	15
Injuries	613	63
Lacerations	283	16
Foreign Bodies	108	6
Miscellaneous	169	75
Totals ..	<hr/> 1,226	<hr/> 175

II. HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

A. Environmental Circumstances and Local Authority Services

(a) GENERAL

Water

The Durham County Water Board provide the public supply of water to the Urban District area and this is obtained from reservoirs situated at Smiddy Shaw, Waskerley Park and Hysehope, which is outside the area. Filtration and chlorination are carried out at Honey Hill Treatment Plant which is adjoining one of the reservoirs.

In September, 1970, fluoridation of the public supply was introduced.

Regular tests made by the Board's Chemist on samples of water showed that the bacteriological and chemical quality of the water supplied was being maintained at a high standard.

Six chemical samples of mains drinking water were taken and the Public Analyst described the results as being within the World Health Organisation recommended limits for lead and copper.

New mains were laid to serve the Council developments at Delves Lane and Medomsley and also to a new caravan site at Allensford.

Two houses in the area are without a mains supply and four samples of water from these houses were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Two of the samples were found to be unsatisfactory but at all times the occupants were advised to boil all water for drinking purposes.

Details of the thirteen samples of water sent to the Bacteriologist are shown below:—

Number of Samples	Mains Water	Private Supply	Probable Numbers per 100 ml.	
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (Type 1)
1	1	—	—	—
2	—	2	—	—
1	—	1	4	1
1	—	1	160	—

Drainage and Sewage

Aerobatic digestion sewage treatment tanks were installed at Crook-hall Sewage Works and the Allensford Caravan Site. New foul water pumping main with associated electric pumps were commissioned at Durham Road, Leadgate.

Sanitary Conveniences

The types of closet in use in the Council's area are as follows:

Water closets	..	..	..	14,221
Ash-closets	..	..	..	4
Chemical Closets	..	..	..	4

Atmospheric Pollution

The Consett (Medomsley) No. 1 Smoke Control Order, 1972, was confirmed by The Department of the Environment in respect of a new housing estate in the course of construction at Medomsley. One hundred and seventy-four premises were involved.

Throughout the year there were minor emissions of pollution from the steel making plant owned by the British Steel Corporation. Alterations had been made to the arrestment precipitators and a new one brought into commission.

Regular liaison was maintained by H.M. Alkali Inspector.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Treatments for the eradication of rats in sewers and sewage works were again carried out and infestations were proved to be relatively small.

One thousand, four hundred and twenty-two visits were made to dwelling houses ,business and agricultural premises, and 248 premises were serviced for the eradication of rats and mice. Refuse tips ,ravines and other likely sources of rodent infestation were visited and where necessary treated.

There is no charge made to private dwelling houses for the eradication of rat, mouse or beetle infestations, but business premises and farms are charged on a time and material basis for the destruction of rats and mice.

Meetings of the County Workable Area's Committee and the Durham No. 2 Area Committee were attended during the year and problems arising from rodent control were discussed with the Ministry and Divisional Officers.

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of Properties in district	15,173	56
2. Total number of Properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	248	3
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	147	3
(b) Mice	101	—
3. Total number of Properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	273	20
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	15	1
(b) Mice	2	—

Sewers and Sewage Works

Date of Sewer Campaign	Number of Manholes treated	Showing Signs of infestation	Number showing no signs of infestation
October 1972	123	14	119
Sewage Works and Buildings treated in conjunction with Sewer Campaign		Showing signs of infestation	
October 1972			
Pont		Minor	
Knitsley		—	
Crookhall		Minor	
Ebchester		Minor	
Hamsterley Pump House		—	

Disinfestation

One hundred and eighty-seven houses and premises were treated for the eradication of cockroaches, flies and other insects.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

Complaints of noise from a factory processing steel and aluminium sections were received. After consultation with the management, certain machinery and saws were re-sited to new positions, and noise levels were reduced.

Scrap Metal Dealer's Act, 1964

Forty-three persons are registered as scrap metal dealers, and of these, thirty-six are itinerant collectors, application having been made to be exempted from the requirements of Section 2 of the Act relating to the keeping of records of dealings. Two persons were successfully prosecuted at a Magistrates' court for operating without being registered under the Act.

Three premises are registered as scrap metal stores.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

During the year, three licences for the keeping of pet animals were issued and routine inspections were carried out.

Swimming Baths

Routine samples of water are taken every two hours by the Baths Manager to ensure the correct chlorine residual and Ph value. Forty-four bacteriological samples were taken by the Health Department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, and these were all satisfactory.

(b) HOUSING, OFFICES AND SHOPS, AND FACTORIES

(i) General

During the year, 145 houses were built by the Council at Delves Lane, Consett and Medomsley.

Type of Dwelling	Delves Lane, Consett	Medomsley	Total
Two-Bedroomed Houses	39	—	39
Three-Bedroomed Houses	88	18	106
TOTAL	127	18	145

In addition, 27 private houses were built.

Since the war a total of 4,205 houses have been completed in the district:

				<i>Council Houses</i>	<i>Private Houses</i>
1946	..	..	..	58	10
1947	..	..	..	238	16
1948	..	..	..	268	29
1949	..	..	..	195	12
1950	..	..	..	134	13
1951	..	..	..	109	12
1952	..	..	..	116	12
1953	..	..	..	146	29
1954	..	..	..	170	35
1955	..	..	..	136	35
1956	..	..	..	107	47
1957	..	..	..	130	58
1958	..	..	..	104	54
1959	..	..	..	76	81
1960	..	..	..	44	52
1961	..	..	..	44	137
1962	..	..	..	47	91
1963	..	..	..	11	94
1964	..	..	..	17	97
1965	..	..	..	64	42
1966	..	..	..	82	46
1967	..	..	..	53	30
1968	..	..	..	66	19
1969	..	..	..	114	27
1970	..	..	..	111	24
1971	..	..	..	255	36
1972	..	..	..	145	27
				<u>3,040</u>	<u>1,165</u>

(ii) Improvement Grants

During the year, 928 applications were made for improvement grants and 78 for standard grants.

Since the inception of the scheme, 1,118 improvement grant applications and 960 standard grants have been approved. In all, 1,535 grants have been completed and the properties brought up to the necessary standard.

(iii) Houses Unfit for Human Habitation

Shum Clearance

One Compulsory Purchase Order for 25 houses and other land at Ledger Terrace/Eltringham Street, Blackhill, was confirmed by The Department of the Environment during the year.

Individual

Twenty-two houses were the subject of Demolition Orders and three Closing Orders were made.

Generally

Houses at Allendale Cottages owned by the National Coal Board were purchased by this Council on becoming vacant and were used for temporary accommodation. Although they served a useful purpose for a number of years, it was decided that when tenants were rehoused in Council houses or privately owned houses, they would not be re-let, mainly because of their rapid deterioration. All of the 210 houses are now empty and demolition has been practically completed.

(iv) **Common Lodging Houses**

There are no registered common lodging houses in the area.

(v) **Closing and Demolition of Houses**

Formal Action

(i) Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action	14
(ii) Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action	24
(iii) Number of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed ..	—
(iv) Number of houses in use as temporary accommodation ..	—

Informal Action

(i) Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above ..	208
---	-----

(vi) **Reconditioning and Repairs**

Number of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation or Public Health Acts).:

(a) As a result of informal action	311
(b) By owners as a result of statutory notice	—
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(d) Unfit houses made fit under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 ..	—

(vii) **Rent Act, 1957—Certificates of Disrepair**

There were no applications for certificates of disrepair.

(viii) **Housing Act, 1969—Qualification Certificates**

Sixteen applications were made for qualification certificates and after certain works had been carried out to the dwelling houses to bring them up to the required standard, seven qualification certificates were issued.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The requirements of the Act affect 309 premises, 16 less than the previous year, and 62% of these premises received a general inspection during the year. Generally it was found that conditions therein were satisfactory and there were no complaints from employees regarding their working conditions.

The following tables (i), show the number of premises registered during the year and receiving a general inspection, (ii) analysis of persons employed in registered premises, and (iii) analysis of contraventions found.

Only two notifications of accidents were received and both of these were attributable to the handling of goods.

No prosecutions or proceedings were instituted and there were no applications for exemptions under any sections of the Act.

(i) Number of premises registered during the year, and the number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	1	72	28
Retail Shops	12	198	148
Wholesale shops, warehouses ..	—	4	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	33	14
Fuel storage depots	—	2	1
Totals ..	13	309	191

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act 237

(ii) Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
(1)	(2)
Offices	374
Retail Shops	955
Wholesale departments, warehouses	31
Catering establishments open to public	165
Canteens	3
Fuel storage depots	9
Total	1,537
Total Males	478
Total Females	1,059

(iii) Analysis of Contraventions

Contravention in respect of	Found	Abated	Contravention in respect of	Found	Abated
Cleanliness	8	6	Seating facilities ..	—	—
Overcrowding ..	—	—	Floors, passages, stairs	2	2
Temperature ..	11	8	Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	—	—
Ventilation	—	—	First-aid General Pro- visions	10	8
Lighting	—	—	Abstract of the Act not displayed	10	8
Sanitary Conveniences	2	2			
Washing facilities ..	5	4			
			Total ..	48	38

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There is only one licensed caravan site in the area and this is owned and operated by this Authority. It includes a picnic area of 11 acres consisting of tended grass bordering the River Derwent. The caravan site is adjoining this picnic area and on it are stationed forty caravans on a seasonal basis; there is also additional accommodation for another forty caravans for tourists. Shopping and cafe facilities are provided together with toilets and supplies of constant hot water.

This amenity is being widely appreciated by residents of, and visitors to, the area.

Factories Act, 1961

Fifty-four visits were made to factories in which persons were employed, and details are given below.

I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	105	48	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises)	5	4	—	—
Totals ..	112	54	5	—

II. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective draining of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	4	4	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	5	5	—	2	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork (Section 133)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel: Making, etc. } Cleaning and Washing }	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	1	—	—	—	—	—

(c) GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Analysis of inspections and notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts:

	Inspec- tions	No. of INFORMAL Notices served	No. of STATU- TORY Notices served	Defects remedied after Notice
Housing:				
Public Health and Housing Acts ..	3,256	426	—	668
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
Insufficient	6	—	—	—
Defective	2	2	—	2
Drainage	57	13	—	13
Water Supply	31	1	—	1
Food Premises	476	137	—	106
Noise Abatement Act, 1960 ..	12	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	1,216	10	—	10
Factories and Workplaces	22	4	—	2
Keeping of Animals	1	1	—	1
Offensive accumulations	12	8	—	8
Smoke Nuisances	5	3	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	1,422	—	—	—
Notifiable Diseases	260	—	—	—
Volumetric Smoke Meters	670	—	—	—
Other Nuisances and Pigeons ..	37	6	—	—
Infestations	375	—	—	375
Scrap Metal Dealers' Act, 1964 ..	20	—	—	—
Hairdressing Establishments ..	17	1	—	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	237	48	—	38
Pet Animals Act, 1951	3	—	—	—
Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles	64	17	—	16
Shotley Bridge Hospital	2	—	—	—
School Canteens	3	—	—	—
Totals ..	8,206	677	—	1,241

(d) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Premises

There are 286 premises in which food is manufactured, stored or sold to which 476 inspections were made. Details of various types of premises visited and the circumstances found which warranted notices being served to conform with the various Acts and Byelaws, also the number of notices served and the defects remedied are shown on page 23.

The following are details of food premises:

Butchers	24
Bakehouses	8
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	21
General Dealers and Grocers	76
Green Fruit	15
Confectionery	34
Wet Fish Shops	2
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	13
Licensed Premises (Hotels, Public Houses, Inns)	60
Ice Cream Manufacture	5
School Kitchens	8
Hospital and Institution Kitchens	6
Slaughterhouses	3
Miscellaneous	11
Total	286

All the aforementioned premises have a wash-hand basin with a supply of hot and cold water, towels, nail brushes and soap for the use of persons engaged in the handling of food and there is also provided a sink or other facilities for the washing of food and equipment.

2. Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Premises indicated below are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the following purposes:

Ice Cream Manufacture	5
Ice Cream Storage and Sale	83
Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages, Potted or Pressed Food	36
Preparation or Manufacture of Fish and Potatoes	13
Slaughterhouses	3

3. Food Complaints

Three complaints, consisting of larva found in a custard pie, mould in a loaf of bread and rodent excrement in a bread bun, were dealt with under The Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Following successful prosecutions, the firms were fined £25, £20 and £40 respectively, together with costs.

4. The Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

Mobile shops, delivery vehicles and ice cream vans were inspected and generally the regulations were being carried out.

The Council provide wash-hand basins and a supply of hot water free of charge in a building on the Market Square for those stall holders engaged solely in the sale of vegetables and covered food. Other stall-holders selling open foods have to comply fully with the regulations.

5. Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 and 1948

All premises used for the manufacture and storage of ice cream and ice cream vehicles were regularly inspected and a very high standard of hygiene has been maintained. Periodic sampling provided the following satisfactory results:—

Premises	Structural		Cleansing and Re-decoration		Water Closets		W.C. Notices		Lack of Refuse Containers		Drainage		Wash-up Sinks		Wash-band Basins		Towels, Nailbrush and Soap		Clothing Accommodation		First Aid Equipment		Smoking		Constant Hot Water		Food Exposure		Accumulations or Deposits		Other Defects		Visits	
	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.	F.	A.		
Bakehouses 	—	—	13	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	26	
Food Manufacturers 	14	11	4	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	48	
Fried and Wet Fish Shops ...	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	29		
Ice-Cream Manufacturers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3		
Caterers and Snack Bars ...	6	—	9	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79	
Grocers and General Dealers	5	5	12	12	1	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	3	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	193
Confectioners 	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	60	
Greengrocers 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	20	
Hotels, Inns and Public Houses	3	3	12	9	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	3	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	25
Total ...	32	20	51	37	2	1	7	6	1	1	1	1	5	4	9	7	4	4	2	2	5	5	6	6	—	—	2	2	7	7	3	3	476	

Ice Cream Sample Results:

				No. of Samples
Grade I ..	..	..	..	22
Grade II ..	..	..	..	8
Grade III ..	..	..	..	2
Grade IV ..	..	..	..	—
				—
			Total ..	32
				—

6. Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

All dealer's licences in milk are now issued by Durham County Council.

7. Milk Sampling

One hundred and thirty-one samples of milk were taken by the Durham County Council from retailers in this Area and the following results obtained:

Type of Sample	No. of Samples taken	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Biological Result		Anti- Bio	
		Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
Untreated	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	10	—
Pasteurised ..	107	104	3	107	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	14	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—

There were no samples of milk positive to *Brucella abortus*.

8. The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district and no samples of liquid eggs have been submitted to the laboratory for the Alpha-Amylase tests.

9. Meat and Other Foods

SLAUGHTERHOUSES—There are three licenced slaughterhouses in the Area as follows:

Messrs. S. Dixon & Sons, Prospect Place, Consett.
 Messrs. A. & S. Britten, Prospect Place, Consett.
 Messrs. Dodds & Bedford, Wycliffe Abattoir, Broomhill, Ebchester.

During the year, 62,239 animals were slaughtered and it was again possible to obtain 100% inspection of all carcasses and offals. The majority of carcasses are being transported from these slaughterhouses to retailers outside of this area.

There is no Sunday slaughtering. Saturday slaughtering is permitted until 1 p.m.

Charges for inspection were made at the following rates:

Bovine Animals	16.5p
Calf or Pig	4.5p
Sheep, Lamb or Goats	3.0p

All carcasses are stamped by qualified meat inspectors after they have been passed as fit for human consumption. Details of carcasses inspected and condemned meats are given below.

(i) Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	681	12	54	33,740	27,752	—
Number Inspected ..	681	12	54	33,740	27,752	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI Whole Carcasses condemned	2	2	—	4	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	49	1	—	2,814	7,575	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci ..	7.5	25.0	—	8.4	2.73	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY: Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	89	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	.3	—
CYSTICERCOSIS: Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	37	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

(ii) Details of Condemned Meat

							<i>lbs.</i>
Cirrhosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,292
Abscesses	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,697
Parasites	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,325
Pleurisy and Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,274
Arthritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	194
Bruising	..	..	..	..	..	..	826
Septicaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,578
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,059
Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	239
Pericarditis	..	..	..	..	..	..	249
Cysticercus Bovis	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Cysticercus Ovis	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Actinomycosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Telangiectasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Tumours	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Melanosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
							<hr/>
							25,914 lbs.

Condemned meats are forwarded to a by-product firm at Red Row, Morpeth, Northumberland, and other unsound food is disposed of by burial on the Council's tip.

Details of animals slaughtered throughout the year are shown below

							<i>Animals slaughtered from Collecting Centres</i>
Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	681
Cows	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Calves	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	..	33,740
Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	27,752
							<hr/>
Total	..						62,239

(iii) Food found to be unfit for human consumption

532 pkts. Fish	211 tins Fruit
392 „ Meat	99 „ Vegetables
267 „ Vegetables	68 „ Meat
225 „ Fruit	52 „ Cereals and Puddings
79 „ Pastry	35 „ Fruit Juice
164 ctns. Ice-cream	20 „ Tomatoes
26 „ Trifles and Mousse	15 „ Soup
9 „ Cream	11 „ Ham
236 Iced Lollies	6 „ Milk
74 Pies	3 „ Fish
29 Cakes	5 jars Jams and Syrup
35 lbs. Butter	

The total weight condemned amounted to 13 cwt. 16 lbs.

10. Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

11. Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 and Amendment Act, 1954

There were 15 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

12. Market Square

The Market operates on Fridays and Saturdays when approximately fifty-eight stalls are in attendance. These include stalls from which green-grocery and confectionery are sold. There are also specially equipped vans from which are sold bread and cakes.

(e) PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 465 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year as compared with 78 in the previous year.

For analysis of notified and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases see Appendix B.

Laboratory Facilities

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

This public health service is free within the National Health Service and is designed to assist all concerned in the diagnosis, prevention and control of infection.

Specimens may be submitted by doctors, veterinarians, dentists, persons acting on behalf of medical officers of health such as public health inspectors and health visitors, or by representatives of official bodies. Specimens cannot be accepted from private persons.

Routine specimens examined fall under two main headings. (a) medical specimens, and (b) sanitary specimens from local or food authorities, or by arrangement, from commercial undertakings.

The following vaccines and antisera are issued by the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle.

Gamma Globulin	..	..	..	Issued to individual doctors
Antivaccinial Gamma Globulin	..	..	..	..
Rabies vaccine and antiserum	..	..	..	..
Typhus vaccine	..	..	..	..

Note

Therapeutic sera or antitoxins are not issued but may be obtained from certain hospitals

Diphtheria, pertussis, poliomyelitis, tetanus and measles vaccines may be obtained through the local health authority—Durham County Council.

TAB and other vaccines may be obtained from retail pharmaceutical chemists.

Yellow fever vaccination is done only at centres designated by the Ministry of Health, the local centre being at 48 Osborne Road, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne. Telephone: Newcastle 28520, Extension 292.

The following shows the number of specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory from this area for the past ten years.

			<i>Specimens submitted</i>	<i>Positive</i>
1962	..	..	1,228	188
1963	..	..	1,666	240
1964	..	..	1,105	137
1965	..	..	824	52
1966	..	..	942	111
1967	..	..	2,083	342
1968	..	..	1,239	47
1969	..	..	1,057	36
1970	..	..	1,196	16
1971	..	..	1,236	27
1972	..	..	900	64

The following table gives particulars of specimens sent in by the Health Department and the medical practitioners in the area for examination during the year.

Bacteriological Examinations

	Number of Specimens Submitted	Positive
Faeces:		
(a) Enteric Fever	229	—
(b) Dysentery		56
(c) Food Poisoning		5
(d) Other Organisms		—
Sputum for Tuberculosis	590	3
Water	5	—
Ice Cream	32	—
Miscellaneous	—	—
Water Samples—Swimming Baths	44	—
Totals ..	900	64

Notifiable Diseases reported during the year 1972

During the year all infectious diseases needing hospital treatment were admitted to Highfield Isolation Hospital, Chester-le-Street.

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during the year.

Diseases	Total Number of Cases Notified	Total Number of Cases Confirmed	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	2	2	—	—
Measles	389	389	—	—
Dysentery	32	35	—	—
Food Poisoning	42	1	—	—
Totals ..	465	427	—	—

Scarlet Fever

There were 2 cases notified compared with 3 last year. The infections were mild in type and no cases were admitted to hospital.

Measles

There were 389 cases notified compared with 26 in the previous year. No cases were admitted to hospital and there were no deaths.

Rubella Vaccination

A scheme of vaccination against Rubella was carried out in the Senior Schools during the month of November and the numbers vaccinated were as follows:

Blackfyne Secondary School	54
Benfieldside Secondary School	18
Moorside Secondary School	58
Consett Secondary School	23
Leadgate English Martyrs R.C. Secondary School	57
	<hr/>
	210
	<hr/>

Whooping Cough

There were no cases of this disease reported compared with 7 in the previous year.

Poliomyelitis

For the fourteenth year there were no cases of poliomyelitis notified. Vaccination against this disease continued during the year and the numbers vaccinated were as follows:

Number of persons who have received a full course of oral vaccine ..	529
Number of persons who have received a booster dose of oral vaccine ..	469

These figures include those vaccinated by general medical practitioners in their surgeries.

In May a school scheme for poliomyelitis vaccination was carried out. Children whose parents had given consent were given full courses or booster doses of oral vaccine as required. Details of the number of children vaccinated are shown on the following table.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION SCHEME—MAY 1972

School	Number of Doses given			Booster	Totals
	1 dose	2 doses	3 doses		
Benfieldside Co.	—	—	1	8	9
Blackhill R.C.	1	—	6	13	20
Blackhill Co.	1	—	1	4	6
Consett Co.	1	—	6	11	18
Consett R.C.	4	—	4	17	25
Delves Lane Co.	—	—	7	20	27
Ebchester C. of E.	—	—	—	3	3
Grove Co.	—	—	5	9	14
Grove R.C.	—	1	3	6	10
Leadgate Brooms R.C.	1	—	3	8	12
Leadgate Co.	—	—	6	4	10
High Westwood Co.	—	2	3	5	10
Totals	8	3	45	108	164

Diphtheria

For the twentieth consecutive year there were no cases of this disease notified and it is now 29 years since the last death from diphtheria occurred in this district.

In May a school scheme for diphtheria-tetanus and diphtheria immunisation was carried out in all the infant schools.

Details of the number of children immunised are set out on the following table.

DIPHTHERIA-TETANUS IMMUNISATION SCHEME MAY, 1972

School	Diphtheria-Tetanus			Diphtheria T.A.F.	Total
	1 Injection	2 Injections	Booster		
Benfieldside Co.	—	2	8	—	10
Blackhill R.C.	1	5	14	—	20
Blackhill Co.	1	—	4	—	5
Consett Co.	—	4	15	—	19
Consett R.C.	3	3	16	—	22
Delves Lane Co.	—	7	20	—	27
Ebchester C. of E.	—	—	4	—	4
Grove Co.	—	6	9	—	15
Grove R.C.	1	2	5	—	8
Leadgate Brooms R.C.	1	3	8	—	12
Leadgate Co.	—	5	4	—	9
High Westwood Co.	—	6	4	—	10
Totals	7	43	111	—	161

The total numbers (all age groups) immunised during the year were as follows:

Primary Injections	506
Booster	471

Numbers of cases and deaths from diphtheria since 1942 are as follows:—

				<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>
1942	..	..	..	18	2
1943	..	..	..	29	2
1944	..	..	..	33	—
1945	..	..	..	13	—
1946	..	..	..	14	—
1947	..	..	..	1	—
1948	..	..	..	2	—
1949	..	..	..	1	—
1950	..	..	..	—	—
1951	..	..	..	—	—
1952	..	..	....	1	—
1953–1972	..	..	..	—	—

Food Poisoning

There were forty-two cases of food poisoning notified but following investigation only one was confirmed where the infection was due to Salmonella Enteriditis.

Dysentery

There were thirty-two cases of dysentery notified and following investigation thirty-five cases were confirmed; the additional cases were revealed as a result of investigations in connection with suspected food poisoning. The majority of cases were as a result of a small outbreak at the Dr. Barnardo's Home, Shotley Bridge.

Smallpox

The number of infants under 2 years vaccinated was 13 as compared with 149 in the previous year.

Tuberculosis

There was a marked decrease in the number of notified cases during the year, there being 6 as compared with 14 in the previous year. There were no deaths recorded during the year.

1. Statistics

(a) Number of new cases notified during the year:

				<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	<i>Total</i>
Males ..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Females	..	..	..	4	—	4
Totals				5	1	6

(b) Number of deaths registered:

Males	..	..	..	—	—	—
Females	..	..	..	—	—	—
Totals ..				—	—	—

(c) Number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register:

Males	..	..	..	124	78	202
Females	..	..	..	104	65	169
Totals ..				228	143	371

Age distribution of new cases and deaths are as follows:

Age Period			CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pul.		Pulmonary		Non-Pul.	
Years			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—4	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—9	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—19	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—24	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34	..	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44	..	..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—74	..	..	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
75 and over	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..			1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
			5		1		—		—	
			6				—			

Cases and Deaths since 1945

Year	Number of Notifications	Rate per 1,000 pop.	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.	Number of Sanatoria Admissions
1945	54	1.5	28	.48	
1946	47	1.2	17	.68	
1947	59	1.5	20	.50	
1948	72	1.8	22	.66	
1949	49	1.2	25	.61	
1950	91	2.3	11	.40	
1951	76	1.9	11	.28	
1952	47	1.2	10	.25	34
1953	40	1.0	10	.25	42
1954	38	0.97	10	.25	37
1955	26	0.67	3	.07	34
1956	30	0.87	4	.10	34
1957	34	0.77	4	.10	30
1958	23	0.59	5	.12	25
1959	20	0.51	—	—	23
1960	22	0.56	4	.10	30
1961	23	0.59	2	.05	28
1962	24	0.61	2	.05	21
1963	18	0.46	3	.08	11
1964	20	0.52	4	.11	9
1965	13	0.34	3	.08	7
1966	11	0.29	2	.05	5
1967	16	0.43	2	.05	6
1968	14	0.37	3	.08	10
1969	8	0.22	1	.02	8
1970	5	0.22	2	.05	5
1971	14	0.39	—	—	11
1972	6	0.17	—	—	5

2. Tuberculosis Service in the Area

(i) At the Chest Clinic there are special sessions for contacts of known cases of tuberculosis. During the year 51 contacts were skin-tested and 47 were found to be tuberculin negative. The number vaccinated with B.C.G. including newborn babies was 53.

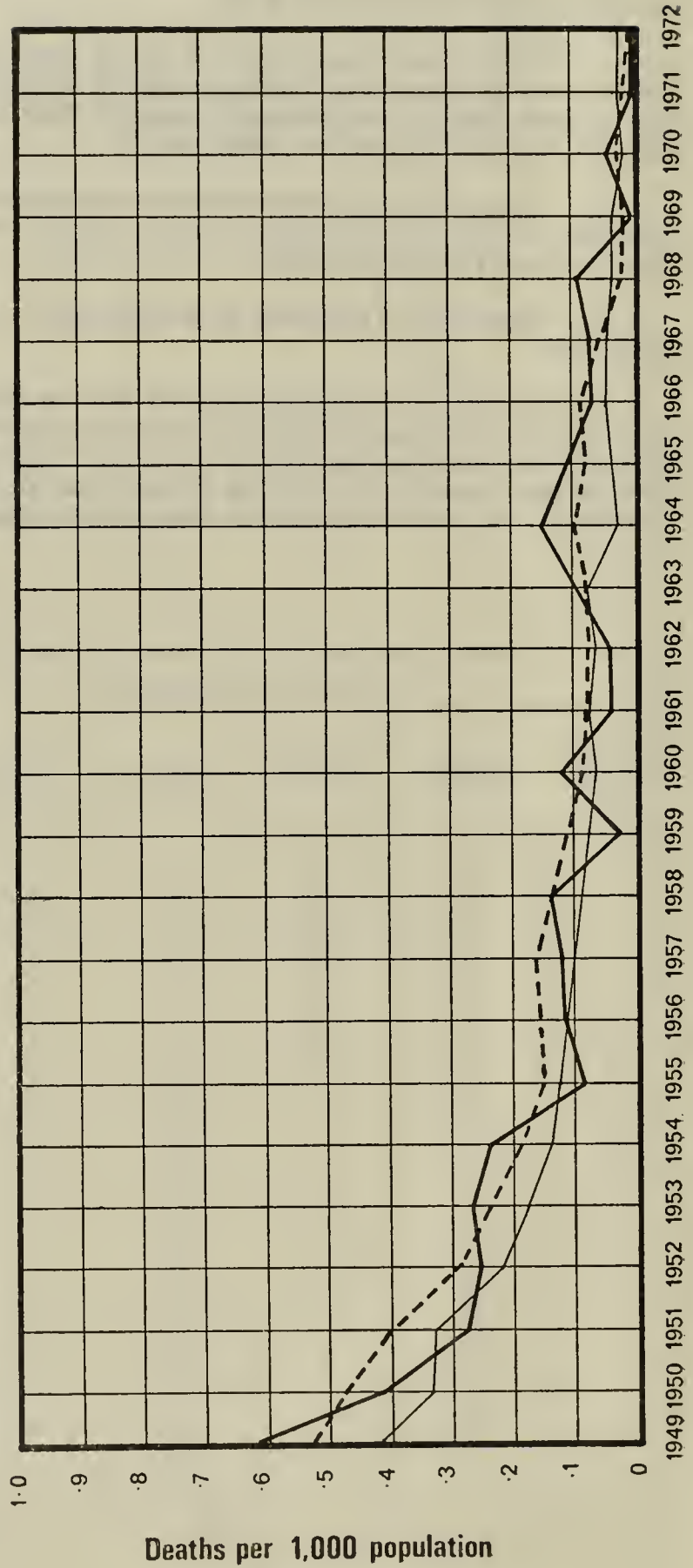
(ii) Those needing hospital treatment are admitted to Maiden Law Hospital, and the few who require thoracic surgery are transferred to Shotley Bridge General Hospital.

(iii) There were 371 patients on the tuberculosis register at the end of the year.

A Tuberculin test is included as part of the first medical examination at school, the test being carried out by the health visitor a week before it is read by the school medical officer at the time of the medical examination. Positive reactors are referred to the Chest Clinic for investigation and contacts of all tuberculous positive cases are investigated.

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY RATES 1949 - 1972

Consett U. D.
 Durham County
 England & Wales



B. Local Health Authority Services

(a) Clinics

(i) *Birth Control*

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, on alternate Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

(ii) *Ante and Post Natal and Health Education and Relaxation Classes*

Clinics for the above are held at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, as follows:

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC—Alternate Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND RELAXATION CLASSES—Thursday afternoons *weekly*.

POST-NATAL CLINIC—Alternate Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

CERVICAL SMEAR CLINIC—Evenings by appointment.

(iii) *Child Welfare*

Clinics are held as follows:

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, WETHERALL HOUSE, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT—Fridays all day, alternate Tuesday mornings.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL, BLACKHILL—Alternate Thursdays all day. Health Visitors Sessions—Alternate Thursday mornings.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL, THE GROVE, CONSETT—Friday mornings weekly.

(iv) *Immunisation and Vaccination*

This has been carried out at:

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics throughout the area, and

(b) By General Practitioners by personal arrangement with parents.

SCHEDULE OF VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The following is the schedule of Vaccination and Immunisation in use in the County.

In general, at County Clinics, children will receive the various protective immunisations and vaccinations according to the following schedule:

<i>Age</i>	<i>Vaccine</i>
4 months	Triple (diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) and poliomyelitis (1st)
6 months	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ (2nd)
12 months	„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ (3rd)
13 months	Measles
14-24 mths.	Smallpox
4 years	Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis Booster Smallpox Re-vaccination

In September, 1966 the Ministry of Health advised that the simultaneous administration of oral poliomyelitis vaccine with triple vaccine for primary immunisation or with diphtheria and tetanus vaccine at school entry could be recommended at the discretion of the doctor concerned.

Particulars of Immunisation and Vaccination during 1972

Diphtheria Immunisation Either Single or in Combination		Whooping Cough Immunisation Either Single or in Combination		Tetanus Immunisa- tion Either Single or in Combination	Small- pox	Poliomyelitis Vaccination		B.C.G.	Measles
Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Vaccin- ation	Primary Three Doses (Oral)	Booster 4th	Vaccin- ation	Vaccin- ation
506	471	479	42	614	34	529	469	53	321

(v) *School Clinic*

Clinics are held in Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, as follows:

School Medical Officer	..	..	Friday afternoons
Dental Officer	..	..	Daily
Education Psychologist	..	..	By arrangement
Audiometrician	..	..	By arrangement

(b) *Nursing in the Home and Midwifery Services*

(i) *Midwifery*

During the year 522 live and stillbirths were assigned to the area. There were 6 stillbirths and 4 deaths in the first week in life.

All midwives are trained in the use and possess apparatus for entonox analgesia.

(ii) *Domiciliary Nursing*

The number of patients in age groups who were attended during the year were as follows:—

0—4 years	27
5—64 years	347
65 years and over	374
Total	748

(c) *Ambulance Service*

The needs of the Urban District are served jointly by the County Ambulance depots situated at VillaReal, Consett and East Street, Stanley, details of the establishment of personnel and vehicles at each being as follows:

			<i>Consett</i>	<i>Stanley</i>
Driver Attendants	..		18	20
Ambulances	..	..	6	7

The Consett Depot provides a 24-hour service in the district under the overall supervision of the Central Control at Durham. All vehicles are now equipped with radio.

The following table gives details of the work undertaken during the year.

	Journeys Undertaken	Cases carried			Mileage
		Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
Consett	5,255	2,613	21,043	23,656	151,439

(d) Domestic Help Service

At the beginning of January, 1972, 496 cases in this district were being served by a Home Help. There were 153 new cases during the year and of the 649 receiving the service 639 (98 per cent) were chronic sick and infirm. At the end of the year there were 505 cases in the area, 144 cases having been terminated during the year.

(e) Local Health Authority Hostel Accommodation

Admission of those needing care and attention to local health authority hostels is arranged directly with the County Health Department, but cases requiring urgent attention are often referred by their own doctors to the local health department.

C. Other Health Services

(a) Welfare of Physically Handicapped

A club run by and for the physically handicapped operates very successfully in this district. Meetings are held every Tuesday in the Disabled Persons Club in Ashdale Road, Consett and all handicapped persons are welcome.

(b) Chiropody Service for the Aged

During the year the Chiropody Service run by the Consett and District Old People's Welfare Committee continued to operate at five centres in the area. In Consett there are twenty sessions monthly, in Shotley Bridge ten sessions monthly, in Ebchester four sessions monthly, in Medomsley two sessions monthly and in Moorside there are two sessions monthly.

(c) Meals on Wheels

The Meals on Wheels service operated by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service has continued to run successfully and now covers all parts of the district. There are approximately 200 meals delivered in the week, each old person receiving two meals weekly.

(d) Luncheon Clubs

There are now three luncheon clubs established in the district, the third one, at Moorside coming into operation in December, 1972. The one in Consett provides 30 meals once weekly and voluntary help is given by the local branch of the Red Cross Society. The Leadgate club meets twice weekly and provides meals for 24 old people; this club is run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service in conjunction with the meals on wheels service. The Moorside club meets on two days per week and provides 12 meals; this is run by the Old People's Welfare Committee, the Women's Royal Voluntary Service and church members.

(e) Voluntary Services—Co-ordinating Committee

The local committee for the area (i.e. Stanley, Consett and Lanchester) helps to co-ordinate voluntary services and integrate them with the statutory services. It links up with the Central Co-ordinating Committee held under the chairmanship of the County Medical Officer of Health.

D. Hospital Services in the Area

The Local Hospital Services are administered by the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The Secretary has kindly provided the following information on the Hospitals and Clinics serving this area.

Maiden Law Hospital

At 31st December, 1972 the following number of beds were available:

Physical Medicine	..	..	..	12
Chest Unit (Tuberculosis)	..	..	48	
Geriatrics	..	..	..	42
Young Disabled	..	..	..	12
				<hr/>
				114
				<hr/>

Lee Hill Hospital

This Hospital has a complement of 225 beds allocated as follows:

Psychiatric	..	..	..	..	43
Geriatrics	..	..	..	..	182
					<hr/>
					225
					<hr/>

Shotley Bridge General Hospital

Out-patients facilities for all the Specialities exist at this Hospital.

The 636 beds are allocated as follows:

Surgical	..	..	..	..	..	105
Medical	..	..	..	..	..	100
Gynaecological	..	..	..	..	..	48
Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	..	96
Paediatrics	..	..	..	..	..	22
Urology	..	..	..	..	..	26
Thoracic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	107
Plastic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	52
Cardiology	..	..	..	..	..	4
Maternity	..	..	..	..	..	56
Special Care Baby Cots	..	..	..	..	..	20
						<hr/>
				Total	..	636
						<hr/>

South Moor Hospital

Bed allocation is as follows:

Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	22
General Surgery	..	..	..	..	16
Total					38

Infectious Diseases Hospital

Patients in the area suffering from infectious diseases and who require hospitalisation are admitted to the Highfield Isolation Hospital, Chester-le-Street and Sheriff Hill Hospital, Gateshead.

Chest Clinic, Shotley Bridge General Hospital

This clinic provides a full chest clinic service, including B.C.G. and resettlement sessions as follows:

Tuesday	9.15 a.m.	Contacts of known cases
	1.15 p.m.	X-ray session (Male)
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.	Males
	1.15 p.m.	X-ray session (Females)
Friday	9.15 a.m.	Females
	2.00 p.m.	Children up to 16 years and B.C.G. vaccination X-ray session (expectant mothers)

A public mass X ray session was continued as follows:

Wednesday 1.30 p.m.—3.30 p.m.

This session is available for members of the public to attend without reference to their doctor first.

Venereal Diseases

Treatment and diagnostic facilities are provided by Clinics outside the Area as follows:

NEWCASTLE GENERAL HOSPITAL, WESTGATE ROAD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE:

Males and Females;

Monday	10 a.m. to 12 noon; 2 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Wednesday	10 a.m. to 12 noon; 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m. to 12 noon; 2 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Saturday	10 a.m. to 12 noon.

III. ANNUAL REPORT ON RAINFALL, Etc. 1972

The Surveyor and Engineer has kindly provided me with the following information:

Month (1972)	Rainfall in inches		Number of days rain fell		Heaviest Daily Fall	
	West- wood	Crook- hall	West- wood	Crook- hall	Ins.	Date
January	4.70	5.76	25	25	.90	6th
February	2.59	2.75	19	18	.66	15th
March	2.63	2.38	15	17	.80	16th
April .. ..	.92	1.04	15	15	.21	1st
May	2.32	2.25	19	—	.50	31st
June	2.11	2.10	19	—	.49	4th
July	1.44	2.00	10	—	.38	22nd
August .. ..	.74	1.25	8	—	.28	6th
September	1.06	1.11	7	7	.50	8th
October .. ..	.52	.83	6	8	.40	9th
November	2.32	2.48	16	14	.81	12th
December	1.06	1.50	12	14	.28	10th
	22.41	25.45	171	118	—	—

The heaviest daily rainfall was on 6th January, when .90 inches of rain fell and the wettest month was January with 5.76 inches. The total rainfall of 25.45 inches compares with 1971 rainfall of 25.60.

The driest month was October with 0.52 inches of rain.

APPENDIX A

Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified

Year	Popu- lation	Deaths	Death Rate	Live Births	Birth Rate	Infan- tile Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Peri- Natal Deaths	Peri- Natal Death Rate	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diph- theria	Polio- myeli- tis	Dysentery	Enteric	Food Poisoning	Infective Hepatitis	Tuber- culosis	
																			Pul.	Non- Pul.
1943	35,320	432	12.2	602	17.0	28	46.5	—	—	291	62	72	29	—	—	—	—	—	31	12
1944	35,050	434	12.0	732	20.8	32	43.0	—	—	306	15	65	33	1	—	—	—	—	45	32
1945	35,310	435	12.3	694	19.6	34	48.9	—	—	117	48	11	13	—	1	—	—	—	34	20
1946	36,760	415	11.2	751	20.4	30	39.5	—	—	218	41	108	14	—	—	—	—	—	33	14
1947	37,040	415	11.2	780	21.0	28	35.8	—	—	385	64	29	1	7	—	2	—	—	43	16
1948	38,820	417	10.7	737	18.9	41	55.6	—	—	522	111	104	2	—	5	—	—	—	53	19
1949	38,900	463	11.9	708	18.2	29	40.9	—	—	142	52	19	1	—	—	—	—	—	40	9
1950	39,130	482	12.3	684	17.4	30	43.8	—	—	375	59	212	—	2	3	1	—	—	79	12
1951	39,020	435	11.1	659	16.8	23	34.9	—	—	740	24	85	—	2	5	—	—	—	62	14
1952	38,840	427	10.9	647	16.6	17	26.2	—	—	281	61	143	1	2	—	—	—	—	39	8
1953	38,740	413	10.6	650	16.7	20	30.7	—	—	332	45	244	—	2	13	255	—	—	32	8
1954	38,830	477	12.2	587	15.1	19	32.3	—	—	114	15	130	—	4	64	32	—	—	27	11
1955	38,770	419	10.8	627	16.1	19	30.3	—	—	771	14	23	—	—	—	23	—	—	21	5
1956	38,770	430	11.0	596	15.3	18	30.2	—	—	24	16	148	3	—	—	16	—	—	29	5
1957	38,780	436	11.2	644	16.6	14	21.7	—	—	997	41	45	—	30	—	3	—	—	24	6
1958	38,890	490	12.6	682	17.5	28	41.0	—	—	26	6	58	—	3	—	1	—	—	22	1
1959	38,940	423	10.8	640	16.4	18	28.1	26	39.6	832	22	108	—	—	81	3	—	—	16	4
1960	39,080	469	12.0	649	16.6	14	21.5	26	39.1	14	21	27	—	—	7	1	—	—	17	5
1961	38,720	441	11.3	692	17.8	10	14.4	18	25.6	842	4	12	—	—	—	11	—	—	20	3
1962	38,780	464	11.9	641	16.5	18	28.0	32	48.4	13	3	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	22	2
1963	38,660	480	12.4	656	17.0	15	22.9	16	24.1	798	5	19	—	—	—	78	—	—	13	5
1964	38,000	397	10.4	618	16.2	14	22.6	22	35.0	53	3	9	—	—	—	98	—	—	16	4
1965	37,700	443	11.7	667	17.7	15	22.5	24	35.3	526	10	11	—	—	8	39	—	—	10	3
1966	37,600	416	11.1	597	15.9	12	20.1	21	34.4	275	20	70	—	—	—	31	—	—	9	2
1967	37,500	387	10.3	592	15.8	13	21.9	13	21.8	333	12	10	—	—	—	112	—	—	14	2
1968	37,320	432	11.4	568	15.2	13	22.9	19	33.0	745	3	—	—	—	—	52	17	—	14	—
1969	37,010	420	11.3	533	14.4	10	19.0	11	20.4	11	4	—	—	—	—	32	191	8	1	1
1970	36,660	419	11.4	581	15.8	11	19.0	9	34.0	91	6	15	—	—	—	54	116	4	—	—
1971	35,390	459	13.0	521	14.7	12	23.0	4	25.0	26	3	7	—	—	—	23	3	11	3	3
1972	35,090	466	13.3	516	14.7	11	21.3	4	19.0	389	2	—	—	—	—	42	—	5	—	1

APPENDIX B
ANALYSIS OF THE NOTIFIED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis)

Name of Disease	Under 1 Year		1		2		3		4		5		6-10		11-15		16-20		21-35		36-45		46-65		66 and Over		Age not Known		Totals	
	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Measles ..	14	14	52	52	36	36	29	29	57	57	106	106	94	94	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	389	389	
Dysentery ..	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	2	3	6	9	7	5	1	1	5	7	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	32	35	
Food Poisoning ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	2	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	3	—	15	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	42	1	
Totals ..	18	16	55	53	39	37	36	30	62	60	110	109	106	105	10	6	4	1	20	8	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	465	427	

